

Attorney Docket No. 28951.2195



The above information is presented so that the USPTO may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(a) and § 1.106(b) concerning the USPTO's duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that these documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and among the "References Cited" on any patent to

issue therefrom. Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures, plus the return of the enclosed form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left-hand column (per MPEP § 609), is earnestly solicited.

This Information Disclosure Statement is intended to be in full compliance with the Rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable applicants to comply fully.

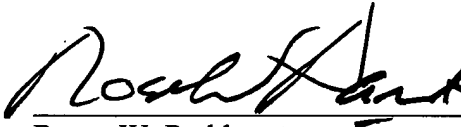
In submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants do not waive the right to challenge the prior art status of any of the documents cited therein.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 19-4293.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

April 25 2005


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FORM 1449 (S&J Version)

Docket No.: 28951

10/532796

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**

Applicant: Hideki TANAKA et al

Application No.:

Filing Date: Herewith

Examiner:

Group Art Unit:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner's Initials* | Document No. | Date MM/YYYY | Inventor | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner's Initials* | Document No. | Date MM/YYYY | Country | Class | Subclass | Translation | |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | Yes | No |
| | S55-78406 | 12/1979 | Japan | | | | |
| | 05-345860 | 04/1991 | Japan | | | | |
| | 09-069416 | 08/1995 | Japan | | | | |
| | 2002-164291 | 11/2000 | Japan | | | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS

| Examiner's Initials* | Include author, title of article, title of item (book, journal, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |
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Examiner's
Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.